

**From:** Joshua Stratton  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/9/01 8:27pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Frankly, the proposed settlement is the biggest miscarriage of justice in the past ten years. There is no other way to describe it.

How does the market recover from the harms caused by the Microsoft monopoly if the monopoly is strengthened by further entrenching their platform, by letting the company achieve its goals?

If you wanted to help education, you would merely tell Microsoft to fork over cold, hard, cash. Schools that wanted MS products could get them; schools that wanted anything else could do so as well.

Furthermore, the API descriptions won't be made available to some of MS's biggest competitors: participants in free and Open Source software products! Even government software developers (e.g. at NASA, NIST, USGS) would not benefit.

Given that I'm in law school, and am hoping to practice in a technology-related field in a few years, you're doing little to engender trust in the competence or intelligence of the DOJ. Antitrust laws should not be used to throw violators into a 'briar patch' as it were.

I would STRONGLY urge reconsideration: possibly along the lines of breaking MS up into its individual business units (e.g. OS, Apps, Internet, Games, Hardware, etc.) or creating several smaller but full-fledged MS's that could directly compete against one another.

At this point though, Bill Gates is surely laughing about how antitrust law has been perverted to strengthen his monopoly. He's laughing at you, and he's laughing at anyone else in the world who is concerned about the detriment that MS has caused to the industry. If you have any courage, any brains, or any concern for consumers and industry, you'll put a stop to that very quickly.

Thanks for your attention

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